

securing a fall of 25 feet and obtaining at least 1,500 horse-power. At many places on the Mayo water-powers can be utilized at nominal cost that would turn from 5,000 to 50,000 spindles.

The Piedmont railroad runs a distance of about twenty-five miles through the eastern part of the county. The Danville, Mocksville & Southwestern railroad terminates at Leaksville, running through the county a distance of about ten miles. There is a railroad projected up the north bank of Dan river, twenty miles of which lies within the county, that bids fair to be completed in a few years.

A great variety of minerals are found in the county; notably among them are iron, coal and lead. Iron is found in Mayo and Simpsonville townships, coal in Madison and Mayo, and lead in the western part of Oregonville. Valuable stone for building, &c., are abundant.

The climate is excelled by none, having neither the rigidity of the northern winter nor the extreme heat of the southern summer; near enough to the mountains to be blessed with their pure water and health-giving breezes, but sufficiently removed to be exempt from their blighting frosts and chilling blasts. The mean annual temperature is 56° Far.; Spring, 55°; Summer, 75°; Autumn, 57°; and Winter, 38°.

Malarial diseases are of rare occurrence, and when they exist are generally due to artificial causes and are not of a malignant type. It would indeed be difficult to find anywhere a more salubrious climate than that of this county.

Two-fifths of the land is still in original forest, abounding in a variety of growth. Notably among them are the pine, oak, hickory, and poplar. The yellow pine furnishes an important building timber. The oak is at least one-half of the forest; and among the several species are the white-oak, post-oak, black-oak, willow-oak, &c. On account of their strength, durability, and great abundance, their uses are manifold, both for domestic purposes and for exportation in various forms.

There are many species of hickory found in abundance and of great size in every part of the county. It is the most dense, rigid, and iron-like of our woods; and on account of these qualities, is superior to any other wood for making wagons, buggies and handles for many kinds of tools.

The poplar is one of the largest of our trees, frequently growing to eight feet in diameter and one hundred feet high. Like the pine,